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Message Text

SECRET

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12
ACTION EA-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 MC-01

EB-03 RSC-01 /039 W
---------- 017900
R 070610Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8188
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

S E C R E T MANILA 13183

STADIS//////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, SN, RP
SUBJECT: SINGAPORE SALE OF M-16 RIFLES TO PHILIPPINES

REF: (A) SINGAPORE 4389; (B) STATE 237439 (NOTAL)
(C) SINGAPORE 4473

1. ADCM INFORMED UNDERSECRETARY DEFENSE SALIENTES NOV. 5 THAT APPROACH TO GOS REPORTED REF A HAD BEEN MADE AND DISCUSSED MATTER WITH SALIENTES ALONG LINES SUGGESTED REF B, NOTING THAT CONTRACT BETWEEN COLT AND GOP AS WELL AS BILATERAL BETWEEN GOP AND USG INVOLVED LIKE RESTRICTION. SALIENTES RECEIVED REPORT WITH EMBARRASSED NOISES, STRESSING ONLY IN RESPONSE THAT PHILIPPINE ARRANGEMENT HAD BEEN WORKED OUT EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE AND NOT WITH COLT.

2. REGARDING CURRENT PROCUREMENT INTERESTS SALIENTES SAID THAT COLT WAS BEING ASKED TO SUPPLY AN ADDITIONAL TEN TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND M-16S AND THAT THESE WEAPONS
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WOULD BE ADDITIONAL TO THE TEN THOUSAND EARLIER REQUESTED.

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GOP EXPECTS COLT TO SEEK WASHINGTON APPROVAL. HE REPORTED THAT GOP HAS CONTRACTED FOR SIX THOUSAND OF THE EARLIER TEN THOUSAND UNITS AND HAS TAKEN DELIVERY OF TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED.

3. COMMENT. REPORTED APPROACH TO SINGAPORE (REF C) FOR ADDITIONAL WEAPONS AND NEW REQUEST TO COLT OBVIOUSLY RELATED, ALTHOUGH SALIENTES DID NOT SEE FIT TO MENTION SINGAPORE TURNDOWN. HOWEVER, IN VIEW RELATIVELY SMALL REQUEST TO COLT IT POSSIBLE FURTHER APPROACHES WILL BE MADE TO GOS.
SULLIVAN

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